DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY



MOBILE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS P.O. BOX 2288 MOBILE, ALABAMA 36628-0001

CESAM-OP-S PUBLIC NOTICE NO. AL00-01519-H 2 June 2000

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS AND STATE OF ALABAMA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

PROPOSED FILLING OF WETLANDS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE EXPANSION OF THE EXISTING CHURCH FACILITY, SARALAND, MOBILE COUNTY, ALABAMA

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This District has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 10 of the River and Harbor Act of 1899 (33 USC 403), and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344). Please communicate this information to interested parties.

APPLICANT: Fountain of Life Church

1277 Jubilee Drive

Saraland, Alabama 36571

WATERWAY: No Waterway, drainage ditch, Section 8, Township 3 South, Range 1 West, Saraland, Mobile County, Alabama.

WORK: The applicant proposes to fill approximately 0.7 acre of wetlands in conjunction with plans to expand the existing church facility. The project site would be cleared and graded. Suitable fill material would be brought to the project site to bring the site to the desired elevation. To compensate for the unavoidable loss of wetlands, the applicant proposes to utilize The Nature Conservancy program for in-lieu-fee as mitigation for this impact. All work will be in accordance with the enclosed plans provided by the applicant.

The applicant has applied for certification from the State of Alabama in accordance with Section 401(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act, and upon completion of the required advertising, a determination relative to certification will be made.

The applicant has certified that the proposed activity complies with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the State Coastal Zone Management Program. Upon completion of the required advertising, a determination relative to consistency will be made by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management.

This public notice is being distributed to all known interested persons in order to assist in developing facts on which a decision by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) can be based. curacy and completeness of the record, all data in support of or in opposition to the proposed work should be submitted in writing setting forth sufficient detail to furnish a clear understanding of the reasons for support or opposition. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

Evaluation of the probable impacts involving deposits of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States will include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The National Register of Historic Places has been consulted and no properties listed in or eligible for the National Register are known to exist which would be affected by the proposed work. This review constitutes the full extent of cultural resources investigations unless comment to this notice is received documenting that significant sites or properties exist which may be affected by this work, or that adequately documents that a potential exists for the location of significant sites or properties within the permit area. Copies of this notice are being sent to the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Division of Archeological Services.

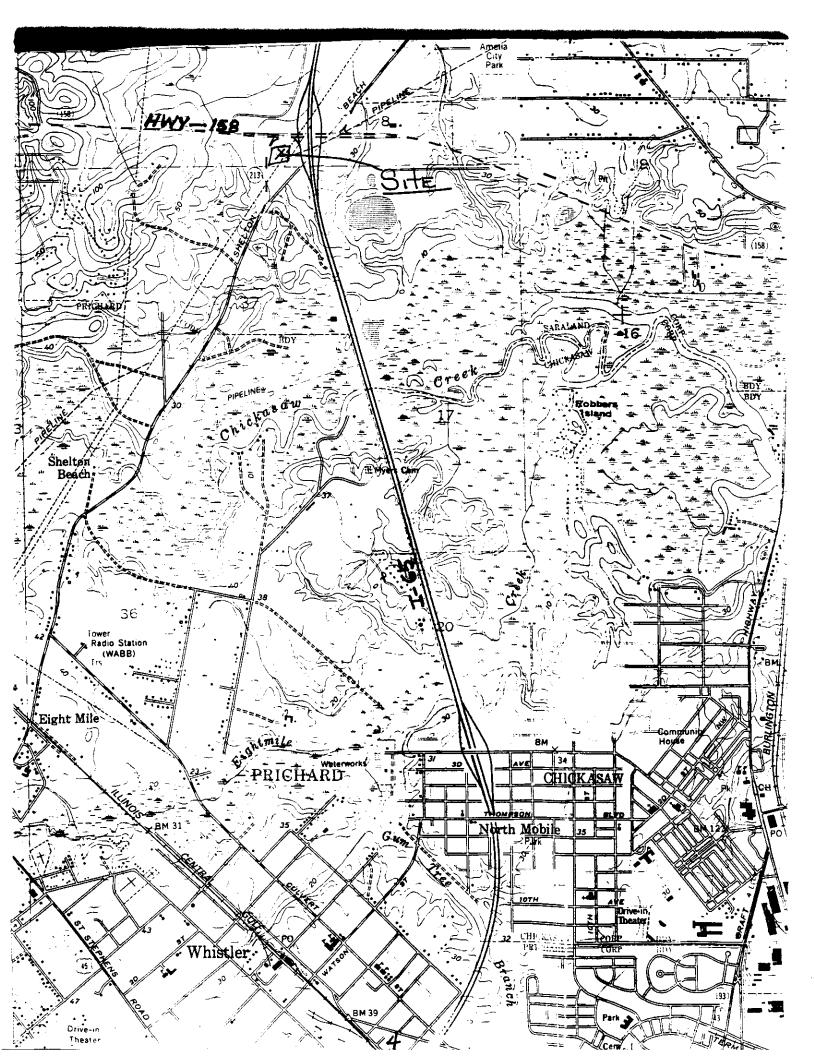
Preliminary review of this application and the U.S. Department of the Interior List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants indicates that the proposed activity will not affect listed endangered or threatened species, or their critical habitat.

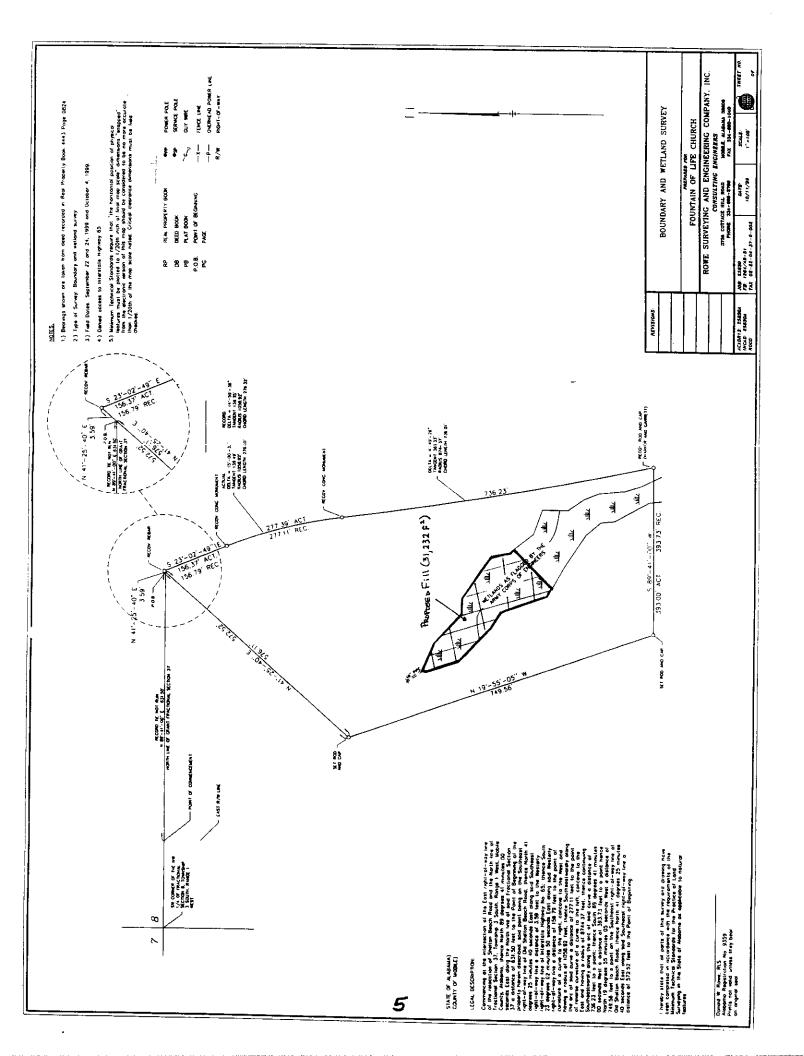
Correspondence concerning this Public Notice should refer to Public Notice Number AL00-01519-H and should be directed to the District Engineer, U.S. Army Engineer District, Mobile, Post Office Box 2288, Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001, Attention: Regulatory Branch, with a copy to the Alabama Department of Environmental Management, 4171 Commanders Drive, Mobile, Alabama 36615, in time to be received prior to 3 July 2000.

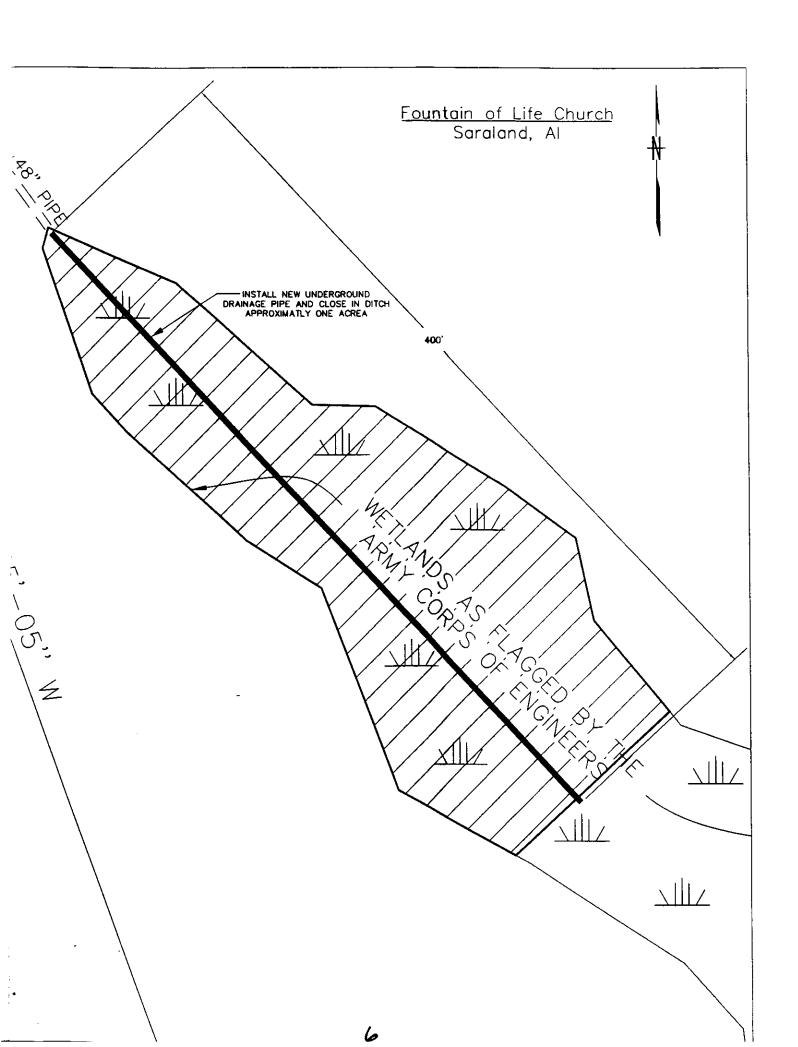
If you have any questions concerning this publication, you may contact this office, Munther N. Sahawneh, telephone number (334) 694-3782. Please refer to the above Public Notice number.

MOBILE DISTRICT
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Enclosures







U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, MOBILE P.O. BOX 2288 MOBILE, ALABAMA 36628-0001 OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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